

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 10, 2004, has been received and carefully noted. The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto. Claims 1-10 are pending and respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chih (US Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0123914 A1).

Claims 1-3 and 5-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chih.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chih in view of Seckel (U.S. Patent No. 5,682,925).

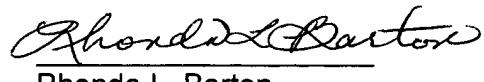
The present application was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 24, 2003. As provided in the attached declaration, the Applicant conceived and reduced to practice the claimed invention on or before October 5, 2001 through (with) Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-309756. Therefore, the present application has an invention date of on or before October 5, 2001. The effective date of Chih is July 1, 2003. As the effective date of Chih is after the invention date of the present application, the Applicant respectfully requests that Chih be withdrawn as a proper prior reference. In support of the Applicant's invention date, the Applicant submits herewith a verified translation of the Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-309756. As such, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-10 in view of the Chih reference.

Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1. The Applicant respectfully submits that these dependent claims are allowable at least because of their dependency from allowable base claim 1. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-10 and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing Attorney Dkt. No. 103213-00060.**

Respectfully submitted,



Rhonda L. Barton
Rhonda L. Barton
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 47,271

Customer No. 004372
AREN'T FOX PLLC
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6000
Fax: (202) 638-4810

RLB/wbp

Enclosures: Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131
Declaration and Verified Translation of Japanese
Patent Application No. 2001-309756